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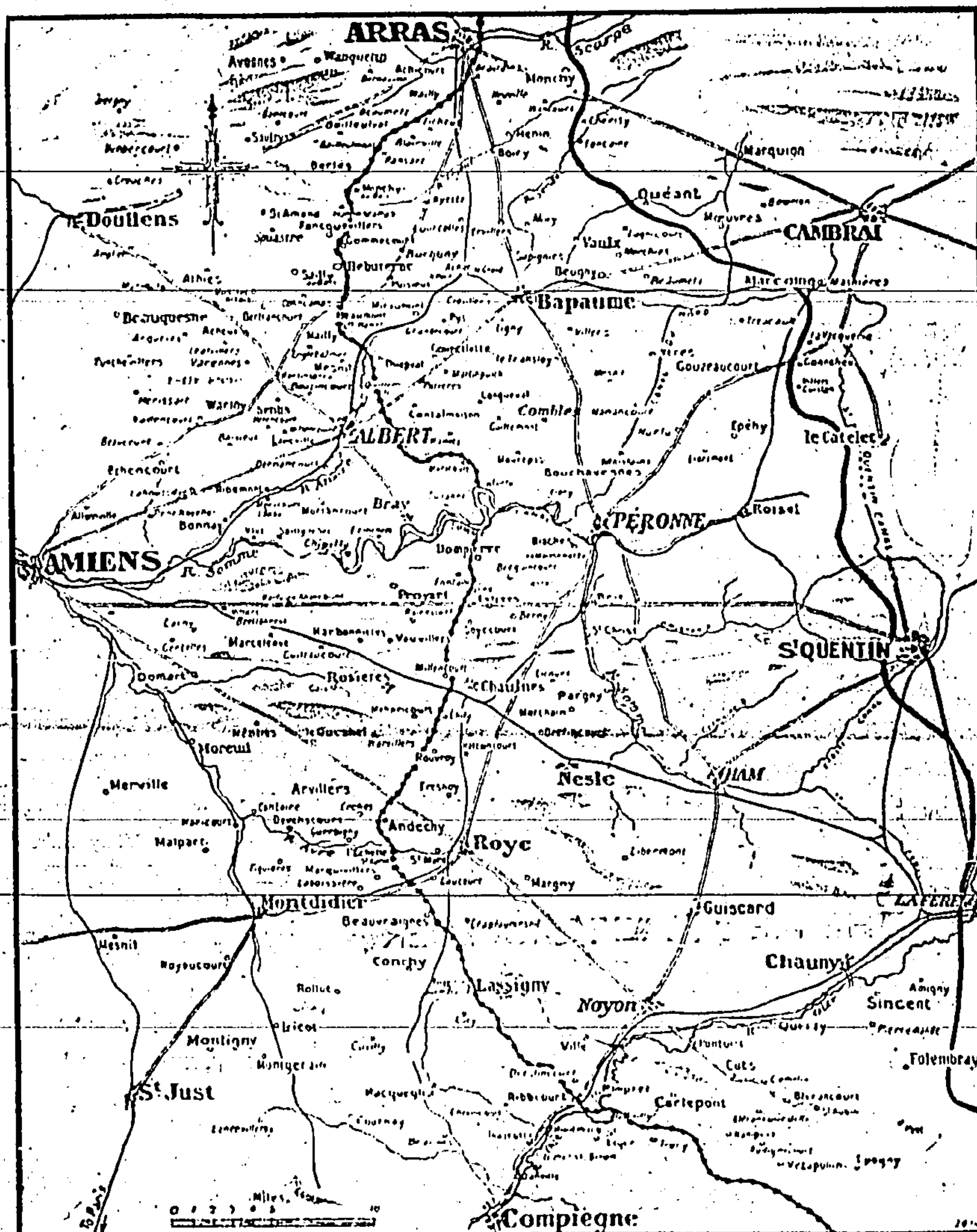
Channel Fighting

shipbuilding or in undertakings producing army supplies are advised remain at work.

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

spy was principal guest at the wedding in 1934 of Miss Faith Hall. H.
PLEASE Turn To Page 4.

Germans reached the Boulogne region. If the Allies on the north front



The German High Command claims that the "annihilation" of the French.

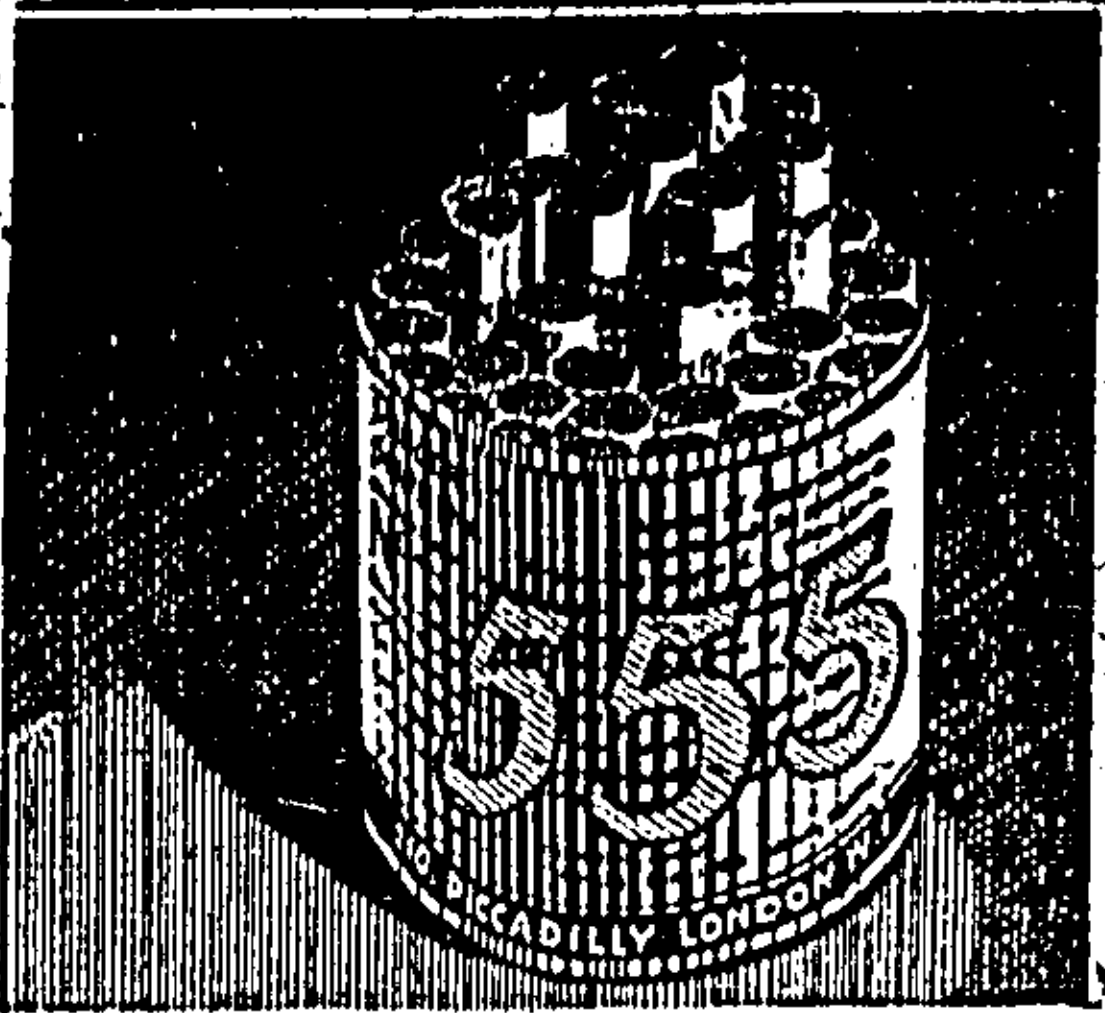
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machine-gunning frightened children, destroying villages and bombing hospital trains.

Further Late News



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FIRST GERMAN RAID ON CIVILIANS: NO LIVES LOST BUT 12 INJURED

FIFTEEN FRENCH GENERALS LOSE THEIR COMMANDS

PARIS, May 25 (Reuter).—It was announced to-day that 15 French generals have been relieved of their commands, including Army and Army Corps commanders and several divisional commanders following the appointment of General Weygand as Commander-in-Chief.

The announcement, made from the French Prime Minister's office, declares:

"In consequence of the military operations now proceeding and which have already resulted in the appointment of General Weygand as Commander-in-Chief in all theatres of operations, important changes have been made in the High Command.

"From to-day, 15 generals have been relieved of their command, including Army and Army Corps commanders, several divisional commanders and some officers in charge of the services of large units."

HAVEN FOR REFUGEES

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

WASHINGTON, May 25 (UP).—Lord Lothian, the British Ambassador, conferred to-day with Mr. Cordell Hull, the Secretary of State. It is understood that the Ambassador enquired about the possibility of transporting large numbers of Belgian and French refugees to the United States until such time as they could return to their homes.

MORE QUAKES IN PERU

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

LIMA, May 25 (UP).—A third earthquake shock occurred at 12.40 a.m., and people again rushed into the streets from their semi-wrecked homes.

Although it is impossible to compute the exact number of victims of yesterday's two big shocks, it is believed that about 300 are dead and 1,500 injured in Lima, Callao and Supe.

With the exception of one Chinese, all the casualties are Peruvians.

Americas Protest To Belligerents

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

WASHINGTON, May 24 (UP).—Twenty-one American republics have protested to Britain and Germany concerning the violation of the Pan-American safety zone by the scuttling of the German freighter Hanover in the presence of a British warship on March 9.

GERMAN REPORTS

FROM PAGE ONE

and British forces trapped in Belgium is a virtual certainty.

Reports from the front claim new advances in northern France and numerous secret weapons from which "very great surprises can be expected" will be used against England in the very near future.

Details of this secret weapon cannot be revealed, they said, but added that "England will find out soon enough."

Military quarters claim that German dive bombers are carrying out devastating attacks on Channel harbours, reducing Ostend, Dunkirk and Zeebrugge to smoking masses of rubbish and thereby dooming all hope of retreat for the French 7th and 9th armies—the remainder of the Belgian army and the main body of the British Expeditionary Force, estimated to total half a million men.

The rear communications of these armies are in a hopeless chaos, military sources declare.

They assert that Calais is completely surrounded and that its fall is expected soon.

Claim Vimy Ridge

A German High Command communiqué states that Boulogne has fallen and Calais is surrounded. It claims that the Germans have captured Ghent and Courtrai, and have crossed the Lys River.

"Between Roubaix and Valenciennes in turning the encirclement into three separate battles, firstly, around the Margat Line from Valenciennes to Lille, secondly, around the Allies on the French coast, and thirdly, around the Allies on the Belgian coast," a Nazi spokesman said.

Famous Tunnel Dynamited

According to German officers, the retreating Belgian troops dynamited the famous traffic tunnel under the Scheldt estuary at Antwerp in order to block the entry of German troops.

Belgians also shelled the outskirts of the city for the same purpose.

A German sapper unit erected a pontoon bridge across the estuary which is 30 miles. The landing field enables the Germans to attack the French frontier fortifications.

"The German forces are also attacking Douai, between Valenciennes and Vimy."

German Strategy

The Allied forces locked in the triangle along the French-Belgian coast face the danger of being divided into three groups, the Germans claim.

Military observers express the opinion that the German drive from Lordet heights northward will meet the German forces which took Tournai in Belgium.

The Germans who crossed the Lys will make an effort to pinch the upper corner of Belgium.

"The German strategy would re-occupy the Antwerp airport was mined, but the Germans filled and sowed the field within 24 hours.

Ring Closed

LONDON, May 25 (Reuter).—A Berlin High Command communiqué asserts that the ring round the Belgian army, parts of the First, Ninth and Seventh French armies and the bulk of the B.E.F., has now definitely closed.

It further asserts that the Germans have captured Ghent, Courtrai and Vimy, hemming in Calais.

There will be a secret session of Parliament next week.

S. RHODESIA AND WAR SACRIFICES

SALISBURY, May 24 (Reuter).—The Prime Minister of Southern Rhodesia has told his people that the time has come when they must state definitely that they are prepared to make sacrifices just as the people of Britain have.

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

LONDON, MAY 26 (UP).—MANY PEOPLE BELIEVE THAT THE GERMAN AIR RAID ON EAST ANGLIA AND YORKSHIRE YESTERDAY—THE FIRST RAIDS OF THE WAR IN WHICH CIVILIAN AREAS HAVE BEEN THE TARGETS—MAY BE THE PRELUDE TO MASS BLITZKRIEG RAIDS ON ENGLAND AND SCOTLAND.

The area visited by the German bombers stretched from the Thames Estuary in Essex to North Riding in Yorkshire.

In addition to these two counties, German planes visited Suffolk and Norfolk.

These are the first civilian casualties in England from deliberate bombings. One man was killed in Scotland in March during a raid on Scapa Flow and two civilians were killed and 150 wounded when a German plane crashed and exploded its cargo of bombs last month.

It is believed the German planes operated from new bases on the Dutch coast.

Further Alarms

Further air raid alarms early this morning along the east coast drove the people to their shelters, while Spitfires took to the air.

In the raid on Scapa Flow and two civilians were killed and 150 wounded when a German plane crashed and exploded its cargo of bombs last month.

The people were still rushing to their shelters as the Spitfires arrived to engage and drive off the invaders, but the raid lasted only a few minutes.

Windows Shattered

Under the circumstances the damage occasioned by the German bombs was remarkably light. There was little or no damage to buildings and no human lives were lost. Some poultry and animals at a farm were killed and the chief property damage was to window panes.

Bombs were dropped on a small Essex town but caused no casualties. One fell in a garden and another shattered the windows of two cottages.

In Yorkshire the only building on which a direct hit was scored was a distillery.

A resident told the "United Press": "The first we knew of the raid was when we were awakened by the crashing of bombs."

"Immediately afterwards the sirens began to sound and we rushed to our shelters."

"Scores of windows were shattered."

Mrs. Scarpa of 16 Homerton Hill Road has reported to the police the theft of jewellery and clothing worth \$128 from her home.

A.R.P. Refuge For Legations In Vatican

SIGNIFICANT ITALIAN MOVES

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

ROME, May 25, (UP).—Italy seethed to-day with rumours of her impending entry into the war with four significant events:

- 1.—Cardinal Luigi Maglione, the Papal Secretary of State, sent letters to all Embassies and Legations accredited to the Holy See asking them to state whether they wanted refuge in Vatican City in case their countries become involved in war against Italy.
- 2.—The suspension of all trans-Atlantic shipping from Italian ports until June 10.
- 3.—The issuance of a decree providing for civilian mobilisation.
- 4.—Signor Ubando Soddu, the Under-Secretary of War, sent a message to all infantry units expressing his faith in the soldiers in "this present moment of the country's destiny when you are ready to march towards new goals and glory."

Civil Mobilisation

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

ROME, May 25 (UP).—The Official Gazette to-day publishes a long decree, in which King Victor Emmanuel, Mussolini and the Council of Ministers officially approve the measures for Civil Mobilisation, announced this morning.

The measure provides that all property and all persons of either sex over 14 years of age can be mobilised and become subject to the discipline of war in the event of partial or general mobilisation.

It is officially confirmed that all trans-Atlantic shipping from Italy has been suspended until June 10 on which date the liners Rex and Augustus are now scheduled to "sail."

No sailings to Far Eastern ports are now scheduled.

Reports Denied

However, reports that all Italian shipping has been halted are categorically denied by official quarters, who state that the postponement of departures of trans-Atlantic shipping is due to technical reasons.

Meanwhile, reports from Bucharest indicate that additional precautions are being taken in Rumania against fifth column activities.

The Rumanian authorities have commenced a general round-up of undesirable foreigners.

Special police entered all coffee houses, bars and restaurants in Bucharest, demanding identity cards.

Simultaneously, pedestrians and car drivers were held up in the streets for a like purpose.

Hundreds of people who were unable to establish their identities were taken to police headquarters.

Liner Sails On Schedule

NEW YORK, May 25 (Reuter).—The Italian liner, Conte di Savoia, sailed at noon to-day for Genoa, according to schedule.

No Designs In Balkans Italian Assurance Said Given

BELGRADE, May 25 (Reuter).—Fresh assurances that Italy does not contemplate action in the Balkans is understood to have been handed to the governments of the Balkan countries.

The newspaper, "Vreme," under a Rome date-line, publishes a statement that it has learned from a very reliable source that the Italian Government has instructed its diplomatic representatives in the Balkans to inform the governments to which they are accredited that all news circulated abroad regarding alleged Italian military designs in the Balkans is unfounded.

It is added that the representatives were also instructed to inform the governments concerned that Italy has decided to make all efforts to prevent an extension of the war to the Balkans and to continue relations with those countries on the basis of the existing treaties.

Soviet's Firm Attitude

Well-informed Yugo-Slav quarters describe the statement as "accurate in a general sense and conforming in intention to the communication received by the Yugo-Slav Foreign Ministry."

Allied observers here are comparing the latest Italian assurances with the firm attitude recently adopted by the Soviet Union as reflected in the statements made by leading figures in Moscow that the U.S.S.R. would not allow any change in the status of south-eastern Europe at the present moment.

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NEXT FEW DAYS MAY DECIDE FATE OF WAR

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

WITH THE FRENCH FORCES, MAY 25, (UP).—THE STRATEGIC RETREAT FROM BELGIUM HAS ENDED. THE ALLIED FORCES ARE NOW ALIGNED ON THE LINE THEY HAVE CHOSEN TO DEFEND.

THIS LINE RUNS FROM GHENT TO VALENCIENNES, TO CAMBRAI, TO PERONNE, TO LAON, TO RETHEL AND AROUND TO SEDAN IN THE NORTH.

It is firmly held and, at the time of telegraphing this despatch, there seems no possibility that the Germans will be able to break through.

Behind the firm Allied lines, the German mechanised units which penetrated north-westwards towards the coast are completely isolated.

They rely for petrol upon any bowlers they can raid and for ammunition upon their own limited supplies.

They have insufficient petrol to force their way back to the main German Army.

Nazi Planes Routed

LONDON, May 24 (Reuter).—The Air Ministry announces that while on patrol over the French coast this afternoon, 11 of our fighters encountered a much larger enemy force. Without loss to themselves, they attacked and shot down 11 Messerschmitts and seriously damaged three others.

ATTEMPT TO KILL TROTSKY

Exile's Bedroom Machine-Gunned

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH" MEXICO CITY, May 24 (UP). Twenty unidentified gunmen to-day attempted to assassinate M. Leon Trotsky, the exiled Russian leader, by machine-gunning his bedroom in his home at Coyacan.

The outrage occurred at 4 a.m., the machine-gunning lasting for a quarter of an hour.

Rolling From Beds

M. Trotsky and his wife Natalia escaped the hail of bullets by rolling from their beds on to the floor.

The would-be assassins also threw thermos bottles containing incendiary fluid through the windows.

The fluid started two fires, which Mme. Trotsky extinguished with blankets.

Subsequently, M. Trotsky charged that the attack had been organised by the Russian OGPU under Stalin's direct orders.

"Sixth Sense" Saved Life

According to a private guard, M. Trotsky's life was saved as a result of his "sixth sense."

When he realised what was happening, Trotsky and his wife willed out of bed and lay flat on the floor to escape the raiders' bullets.

The intruders apparently used a ruse to enter Trotsky's home which is surrounded by a high wall, and is constantly guarded by five additional bodyguards inside and a special patrol of police outside.

The guard said the raiders first overpowered and bound the five policemen after which they gained entry to the house. A few of them were dressed in uniforms of the policemen, and they succeeded in kidnapping Mr. Sheldon, who was chief guard on night duty. He is still missing.

What Hitler Hopes To Do

Offensive Directed At England

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH" NEW YORK, May 25 (Domel).—Hitler's major offensive which will be directed at England will be preceded by mass aerial and naval attacks, reports Louis Lochner, Associated Press correspondent who arrived at the Channel coast Thursday with the German Army.

Although Germans are unlikely to launch a full-scale offensive against England immediately since they are intent upon crushing all Allied opposition in northern Belgium and France and behind the lines Lochner says that Germany's major drive will be preceded by an attempt to destroy British Naval air and land organisations by air and sea attacks.

WEYGAND FEELS DISASTER HAS BEEN AVERTED

By RALPH HEINZEN

UNITED PRESS WAR CORRESPONDENT

PARIS, MAY 25 (UP).—THE WHOLE FORCE OF THE ALLIED ARMIES WHICH WERE IN RETREAT ACROSS BELGIUM AND NORTHERN FRANCE HAVE NOW TURNED ROUND ALONG NEW STRATEGIC POSITIONS AND THE GERMANS, FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE THEY STARTED THEIR BLITZKRIEG, ARE FACING THE FULL FORCE OF ALLIED RESISTANCE.

General Weygand, the Supreme Commander-in-Chief, went yesterday morning to the scene of the Battle of Flanders, which he is now personally commanding.

NAZI ARMY ENCIRCLED?

Apparently delighted with the fighting spirit of the Allied armies, he flew back to Paris at noon and personally reported to M. Reynaud that within a few hours he hopes to say that the WHOLE DISASTROUS SITUATION HAS BEEN WELL AVERTED AND THAT THE GERMAN ARMY ITSELF IS ENCIRCLED IN A POCKET.

As soon as this manoeuvre is accomplished, the Allied Supreme Commander will permit the main Allied armies to adopt the defensive and hold the encircled German forces until the "lost battalions" of German tanks have been cleaned up.

FRENCH H.Q. ADMISSION

The French military leaders make no secret of the fact that the whole disastrous German penetration was due to a break through several poor divisions in the French Ninth Army.

The German General Staff were swift to seize upon the advantage this break through gave them.

Now, however, there can be no withdrawal and it has become quite apparent that the General Staff is staking the whole outcome of the war on the battle.

In an effort to avert the menace of General Weygand's new tactics, the Germans are throwing in fresh troops, tanks and artillery into action along the Estuaire River.

Nazis Rush Reinforcements These men and materials are believed to have been rushed up from the Swiss frontier, where there has been a noticeable thinning of the German reserves.

The fatigue of two weeks' continuous fighting and movement with full packs is telling heavily on the Germans, and there has been a most evident slackening of the Nazi effort in the whole pocket between Sedan, Valenciennes, Rethel, Arras and Cambrai.

This slackening is also partly explained by the difficulties of organised supplies and communications, owing to the very poor lines of communication in the German rear—difficulties which have been further complicated by the intense nature of the Allied aerial activities.

Allies Use U.S. Planes The British and French Air Force to-day flung their enormous reserves of American planes into these operations for the first time. Many of these planes had left New York only last month.

Piloted by British, French, Belgian and Polish aviators, they tore at the German roads and railways, the Allied interference with the German bottle-neck at Aachen (Aix-la-Chapelle) proving particularly successful in the day's operations.

Allied Positions Maintained

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

PARIS, May 24 (Domel).—A French High Command communiqué states that all positions along the Somme River have been maintained. German attempts to penetrate behind the Maginot fortifications south of Sedan have been checked. R.A.F. units on Thursday shot down more than 20 German planes, including several Messerschmitt fighters, according to an official communiqué.

Official Communiqué

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

PARIS, May 24 (UP).—The 528th official communiqué says that violent encounters have been going on for several days in the north of France, especially in the region of Cambrai and Arras.

The encounters have extended to the regions of St. Omer and Boulogne, and so far have prevented the restoration of the continuity of the whole front.

CANBERRA, May 24 (Reuter).—Australia has been informed that the war will not affect the status quo of the Netherlands East Indies, stated the Australian Minister for External Affairs to-day. A similar undertaking, he said, had been given by Japan.

HITLER STAKES ALL

Win Or Lose War In One Battle

BERNE, May 24 (Reuter).—German official circles openly admit that the Reich is now playing all its trump cards on the Western Front, according to neutral correspondents in Berlin.

It is stated that the Germans realise that the result of the war will probably depend on the issue of the present operations. Consequently, they are throwing into the battle all their reserves of mechanised material.

Operations in northern France and Belgium are believed to comprise the first part of Hitler's plan.

The German troops, however, are meeting a resistance with which they do not appear to have reckoned.

The second phase of the plan would be a direct attack against Britain.

ABBEVILLE CARNAGE

Wholesale Slaughter By Nazi Bombers

LONDON, May 24 (Reuter).—Abbeville, where the German advance turned northward towards the Channel ports, was bombed to pieces by the German air force before their troops seized the town, according to a Red Cross man who has just left northern France.

"The last time I saw it, it was one vast desolation of smouldering ruins, with the shattered streets strewn with dead and dying women and children."

The Germans bombed it apparently without thought of military objectives, dropping high explosive incendiary bombs and incendiary darts which shoot about like jumping crackers.

BRUSSELS BURNS—DRAMATIC AIR MAIL PICTURE



INCREDIBLE AND HORRIFYING damage caused to Brussels, Belgium's capital after a series of raids by Nazi bombers shortly before the city capitulated to the invaders. Here, in the first picture published in Hongkong of the German rape of Belgium, we see firemen attempting to extinguish a blaze caused by an incendiary bomb.

Crisis Drawing To End, French General Declares

PARIS, May 25 (Reuter).—"There is no reason why we should not have confidence in the future," writes General Duval in "Journal des Debats."

General Duval says: "The crisis caused by bad dispositions at the start is drawing to an end. We shall not come out unscathed nor will the Germans, but we shall come out of it."

He says the situation is now established practically everywhere except in Flanders, "where the crisis has reached a degree of extreme violence."

"The Germans are directing all efforts against the Channel coast. They appear to have massed practically all their mechanised strength in Flanders."

HONGKONG SHIPYARD TO BUILD BRIGANTINE

Undaunted by the loss of his ill-fated yacht Elvira, Mr. A. Carmelo, the Mexican Consul in Manila has now ordered a larger sailing vessel, a brigantine through Mr. E. S. Moses of Hongkong. Mr. Carmelo is at present on a visit to Hongkong.

A brigantine is a two-masted vessel, square-rigged like a brig, but with fore-and-aft masts and raking masts. Mr. Carmelo's new craft is of the following dimensions:—Length over all, 80 ft. 10 ins, beam 15 ft. and draught 8 ft. 3 ins.

She will be fitted with Diesel auxiliary power of about 40/60 h.p. The designs of the brigantine are from the board of Mr. Murray G. Peterson of Marblehead, Mass., U.S.A., well known naval architect and designer of schooners.

Although the brigantine will look like an old-fashioned ship she will be luxuriously fitted out. She will have accommodation for a party of 10 with crew quarters for four and she will be fitted throughout with electric lighting, radio and refrigerator. The vessel will thus be very comfortable for extended cruises.

Mr. Carmelo has decided to name his new craft the "Nuestra Señora de la Paz" (Our Lady of Peace), the Patron Saint of Sailing in the Philippines, whose statue will be used as a figurehead.

In building this new ship, Mr. Carmelo is following in the footsteps of his grandfather who owned a fleet of brigantines, which traded between the Philippines and Mexico.

This new ship will be built in shipyard under the care of Mr. Tam Tai, the master builder in charge of the building of the sloop Orient for Messrs. Sparkman and Stevens and the Ma On Shan, built for Squadron Leader Francis of the R.A.F.

Imperial Airways Booked Out

Urgent Requests By H.K. Residents

Anxious for the safety of children and relations in Britain, many Hongkong residents have written enquiries to the local Imperial Airways office in order to bring their relations to the Colony by plane.

Imperial Airways has been unable to comply with these requests as all planes between Hongkong and Eng-

NAZIS' BIG SEA LOSSES

26 Ships Sunk In April

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

KOBE, May 25 (Domel).—

That Germany during April lost four times the amount of shipping as Great Britain is revealed by an independent source. The shipping department of the Mitsui Company declares that during last month, Germany lost 26 ships totalling 180,586 tons, while Britain lost but six vessels, amounting to 36,033 tons.

The survey reveals that with the rapid intensification of the European war, the total shipping losses of various countries during April reached a total of 40 vessels, aggregating 245,403 tons, including 30 freighters of 131,035 tons, six tankers (31,247 tons) and four passenger ships (83,121 tons).

Since the outbreak of war in September last, the total loss of world shipping is over 2,000,000 tons, comprising 443 freighters, 49 tankers, 31 passenger ships, making a grand total of 523 vessels.

land have been fully booked for some time and are now booked until June. Heavy Air France Bookings Enquiries have been made to bring children and relations from Scotland as well as from various parts of England now made so vulnerable to bombing through the Nazi occupation of Holland, Belgium and the drive to the Channel ports.

Heavy bookings have been made on all Air France planes operating between Hongkong and Europe and the next plane is fully booked.

In making their enquiries many people have asked the question—what route it will follow if Italy suddenly enters the war on Germany's side, as some said that they intended to fly to England and bring back their children with them.

Hell Is Let Loose From The Air

R.A.F. CARRY OUT MERCILESS RAIDS

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH"

LONDON, May 24 (UP).—The Royal Air Force continued their unrelenting attacks against German columns on the Western Front to-day.

Nazi concentrations in the Arras and Boulogne districts were mercilessly bombed, says an Air Ministry communiqué.

Last night R.A.F. units made strong sorties on the enemy's lines of communication in northeast France, southern Belgium and the Rhineland.

Hits were registered on the railway junctions at La Chapelle, Beaumont and Gamboux. Rolling-stock and transport columns were set afire, and many explosions occurred.

Other bombers attacked Charleroi where they scored direct hits.

80 Nazi Planes Down

No less than 80 Nazi planes were brought down or seriously damaged in the numerous raids with the R.A.F. carried out during to-day.

Ten British planes are reported to be missing.

Eleven fighting British planes over the French coast this afternoon brought down eleven Messerschmitts and seriously damaged three more, stated the Air Ministry communiqué.

Repeated Bombing Attacks

LONDON, May 24 (Reuter).—The Air Ministry announces that intense air activity on an "increased scale" continued yesterday, last night and to-day over the fighting fronts in France and Belgium.

Repeated day bombing attacks were made by R.A.F. bombers on enemy columns in the neighbourhood of Arras and Boulogne.

Strong sorties were made during the night on the enemy's lines of communication in north-east France. Among the targets hit by the heavy bombers were several military objectives at Arras and Hazebrouck, where fires were started.

Hits were also obtained on the railway junction at La Chapelle.

At Clivet, on the Meuse, a marshalling yard and a large column of transport were severely damaged.

The railway junction at Beaumont was hit and the rolling stock set on fire.

The junction at Gamboux was also successfully attacked and an explosion was seen among the convoy of lorries nearby.

After the bombing at Charleroi another explosion occurred.

Heavy bombers attacked the enemy communications at Emmerich, Cologne, Coblenz and elsewhere.

Six Fail To Return

From these widespread operations six aircraft failed to return.

The fighters continue to win spectacular victories against the enemy.

From reports received they have shot down or seriously damaged at least 80 enemy aircraft since yesterday morning.

Ten fighters are missing but some pilots may yet return.

At least 500 aircraft have been lost by the enemy in France and Belgium during the last week, making the total over 1,500 enemy aircraft lost since the invasion of the Low Countries.

WHY THEY WILL LOSE

S. African Premier On Psychological Defects

JOHANNESBURG, May 24 (Reuter).—General Jan Smuts, the South African Premier, speaking at a civic banquet in honour of his 70th birthday, uttered a warning that the Government would deal with "Fifth Columnists."

General Smuts also referred to South Africa's fine response to the call for volunteers.

He declared that the world would be much poorer at the end of the war and there probably would be unprecedented impoverishment after the most colossal destruction in history.

Psychological Defects

The Germans lost the last war despite their matchless military machine because of psychological defects which remain unchanged and which will once more defeat Germany.

Nazi fanaticism may call forth a no less fierce and determined fanaticism on the other side, and to the moral factor will be added the religious factor.

South Africa will be in the struggle to the full and to the end, said General Smuts.

50,000 PILOTS A YEAR

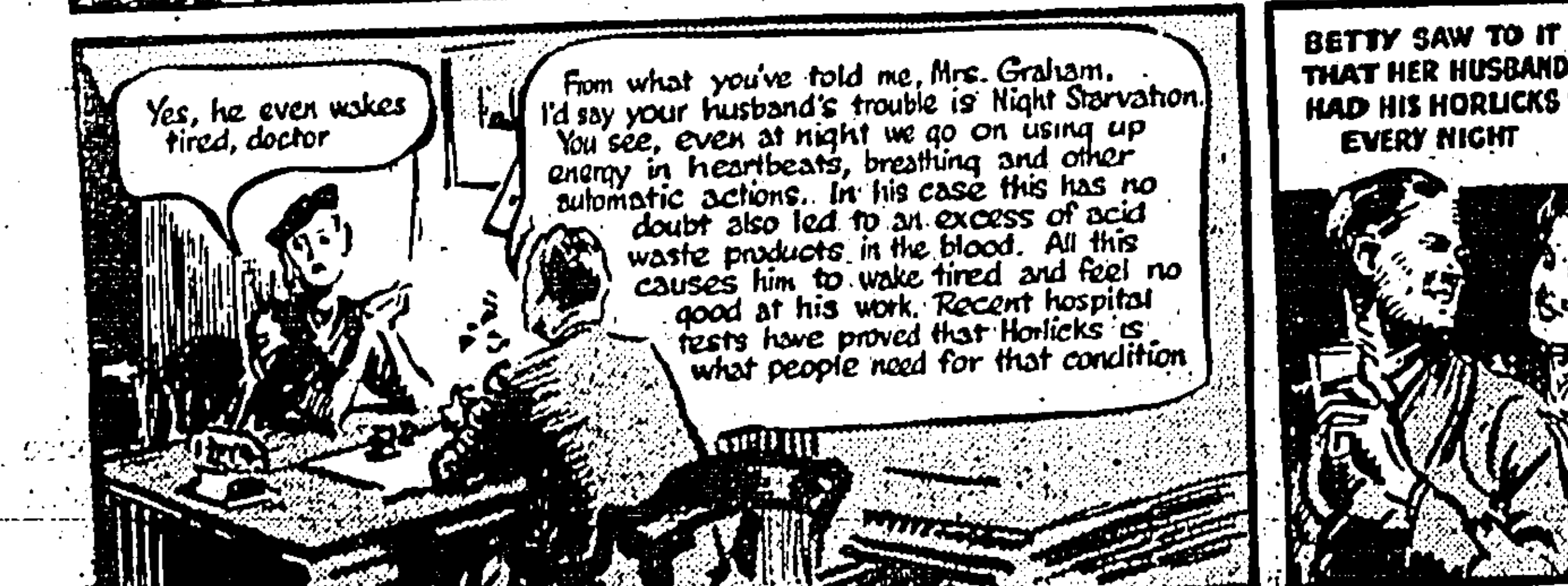
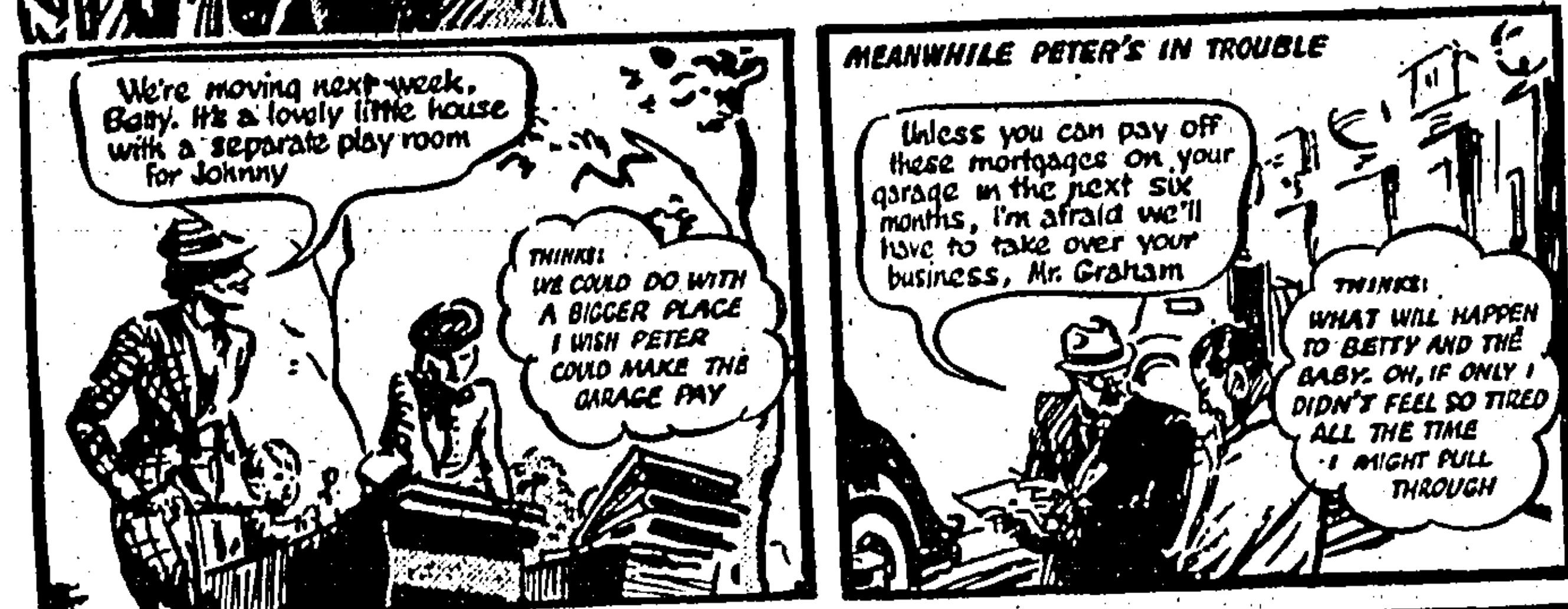
WASHINGTON, May 24 (Reuter).—Plans to give basic training of pilots to 50,000 men in the year beginning July 1 were disclosed by President Roosevelt at a Press conference.

The President added that Congress would be asked for a supplementary appropriation to handle the pilot programme.

Men taking the course will be drawn from schools, colleges and many citizens holding pilot's licences and from men between the ages of 18 and 25 who are not in college but who desire training in aviation.



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R.A.F. INTENSIFIES ATTACKS: MANY BIG FIRES STARTED

16-HOUR DAY FOR PILOTS TIRED MEN TELL VIVID STORY

LONDON, May 25 (Reuter).—"Reuter's" special correspondent with the advanced air arm of the French Army heard a thrilling story from tired pilots who, in the past fortnight, worked 16 hours a day attacking the German hordes.

This correspondent heard the story when he visited them at their skillfully concealed airfield. This particular unit, in the last 12 days, accounted for 45 enemy planes while another group had destroyed 100 planes.

The army to which they belonged has a grand total of 600 enemy planes destroyed in the past fortnight.

Captain's Story

One Captain described how, with five planes, he attacked 40 Messerschmitts and brought down one and damaged others. He finally landed with three shell holes and 371 machine gun bullets through his machine.

The General Commanding the Air Group said the Allies had now adapted themselves to the German mass air attacks with 25 to 40 planes. It was like mass infantry attacks in the last war, he said.

Dive bombing at first had a psychological effect, French chasers planes were now also carrying out dive-bombing with considerable success.

They Can't Take It

German pilots were courageous but lacked the Allied quality of moral ascendancy. The general declared that 16 French planes approached 40 Germans, the latter almost always retired.

Some of the German pilots had had only 52 hours' flying experience, whereas most of the French had had five years' training.

He added that the Germans had no spare men while the French had many pilots in reserve.

"Little War" In Peiping Lowlands Repulse The Nazis

PEIPING, May 25 (Reuter).—As the Legation quarter is a special area administered by an international body selected from the members of the various embassies, the growing numbers of countries involved in the European hostilities is expected to cause local complications.

Following the invasion of the Low Countries, the Netherlands Legation gave the Germans notice to quit certain Dutch property in the Legation quarter.

The Germans are now moving their school and club from Dutch property to the former Austrian Legation grounds seized by them when Austria was annexed. In retaliation, the Germans have expelled all Dutch subjects from the Austrian grounds.

Hitherto the Germans have not attempted to take over the Dutch and Belgian Legations, and it seems very doubtful if the Japanese would allow such a step.

There are no Norwegian and Danish Legations in Peiping.

DELHI, May 24 (Reuter).—The President of the All-India Muslim League today reiterated his conviction that the only solution of the Indian problem lies in the formation of independent Moslem states in the north-west and east zones of India.

LONDON, MAY 26 (UP).—AS AIR RAID SIRENS WERE SHRIEKING IN THE ENGLISH COASTAL COUNTIES. FURTHER NORTH, PEOPLE IN SUSSEX AND KENT WATCHED A GIGANTIC FIRE BURNING ACROSS THE STRAITS OF DOVER IN THE BOULOGNE-CALAIS AREA.

SIMULTANEOUSLY, THE AIR MINISTRY DISCLOSED THAT R.A.F. PLANES ENGAGED YESTERDAY IN "INTENSE AIR ACTIVITY ON AN INCREASED SCALE". THE RAIDS INCLUDING SUCCESSFUL ATTACKS ON MILITARY OBJECTIVES.

Bombers are claimed to have severely damaged a marshalling yard and a large transport column on the Meuse.

LARGE-SCALE OPERATIONS

LONDON, May 25 (Reuter).—The Air Ministry announces that transport columns, troop concentrations, road and rail junctions, bridges, permanent ways and rolling stock were among the targets hit by R.A.F. heavy bombers in the large-scale operations over north-east France, southern Belgium and Germany last night.

The enemy's lines of communication were discovered over a wide area. Many fires were started and much damage was done.

In the course of these operations, three of our aircraft were lost.

Throughout the day, R.A.F. bomber aircraft continued to give vigorous support to the Belgian, French and British armies over the fighting front.

R.A.F. fighter aircraft maintained continuous patrols over the battle areas, and the coast of northern France.

This morning's report indicates that they had already shot down or seriously damaged 12 enemy aircraft with the loss of only one Hurricane.

Continuous Patrols

The Air Ministry says that German motorised units on coastal roads near Boulogne were located and heavily bombed throughout Friday by Blenheim bombers.

These Blenheim bombers kept up almost continuous offensive patrols from early morning until nightfall.

Several raiding aircraft were hit by anti-aircraft fire from batteries and mobile guns, but no casualties were suffered by the crews.

Photographs of a bombed transport were secured.

In the evening an important canal bridge was attacked and destroyed by a strong force under heavy fire from pompons. Nearly 300 bombs were dropped.

All the aircraft engaged in these operations returned safely. Only one of our airmen was wounded and only slightly.

Columns Attacked

On the first sortie, 40 motor vehicles standing in a field near the cross-roads were attacked by nine Blenheims. The salvoes were seen to burst amongst the massed vehicles.

Soon afterwards, a force of Blenheims attacked another column of small armoured fighting vehicles and supply lorries.

A formation of 15 enemy biplanes opened an attack on the nearest bomber, but hurriedly broke off the engagement on sighting British fighters diving to support the Blenheims.

The same enemy column was attacked an hour later by a still stronger force, which dropped 150 bombs and scored numerous hits.

Later on Friday anti-aircraft batteries some distance from the coast were heavily attacked and many other armoured vehicles were bombed.

40 Planes Destroyed

British fighters yesterday destroyed or seriously damaged another 40 German planes over the French and Belgian fronts with only a quarter of that number of casualties to themselves.

Their victories in the past three days are thus 120.

"Reuter's" Reports

LONDON, May 25 (Reuter).—"Reuter's" special correspondent with the Royal Air Force reports: "Nightly havoc, inflicted by the R.A.F. on the enemy's scattered army, is taking an ever increasing toll of units which are out of touch with each other."

This is a phase of the present confused warfare which may have an all-important bearing on the outcome of the struggle, now that the Allied armies are reported to be ranged on both flanks of the German "late."

German mechanised columns with tanks parked in village streets in the enemy "late" towards the Channel were surprised during the night by the R.A.F. dive bombers.

One moving column was furiously attacked while a long stationary column of armoured fighting vehicles was also bombed, several direct hits being scored.

Excellent Results

Important targets in Ardennes to the rear of Minij along the Meuse were bombed yesterday night by a large R.A.F. formation, which concentrated the work of dislocating and delaying the enemy's supplies and reserves moving up to the front.

Although visibility was poor, it is claimed that the results of the raids were excellent.

After crossing the German frontiers, the formation bombed bridges and railways. All the bombers returned safely. One which made a forced landing flew home later.

Two Hurricanes were shot down by our anti-aircraft defences to-day.

GREAT WAR SPY HELD IN LONDON

FROM PAGE ONE

daughter, Miss Marie Rintelen, was one of the bridesmaids.

Rintelen's cousin, Herr Anton von Rintelen, was in an Austrian concentration camp until the country was over-run by the Nazis. Anton von Rintelen was sentenced to life imprisonment by the Austrian Government for participating in the abortive 1935 putsch.

LATE NEWS

Eire Will Fight If Necessary

DUBLIN, May 25 (UP).—Speaking at Galway to-day, Mr. Eamon De Valera, the Prime Minister of Eire, said that long range modern airplanes had brought Ireland well within the war zones.

Eire does not want war, he said, but "if any military power considered an advantage could be won by brushing aside the rights of the Irish people or their neutrality, we will not hesitate to fight."

Ireland, Mr. Valera said, has become an endangered area during the last few days, but she has one safeguard, namely, that her people are prepared to defend their liberty and to fight any invader.

"Unfortunately there is a small group who appear to be meditating treason. I tell them as one man that such a state of affairs will not be tolerated and that instead of being patriots they will be behaving as traitors."

"It took six hundred years to get the British out of this country and we don't want them or any others to come in here again," Mr. De Valera said.

R.A.F. Mistaken For Saboteurs

SPECIAL TO THE "TELEGRAPH". BELFAST, May 25 (UP).—Three Royal Air Force pilots were wounded last night when a patrol of special constables mistook them for parachutists or fifth columnists.

The airmen were proceeding towards their airport in a car when they were challenged by the special police.

They took no heed of the challenge and continued on their way, whereupon the special police opened fire with their rifles.

The car was riddled with bullets and swerved into a ditch.

He Was The Only Goat

ABERDEEN, MD., May 25 (UP).—Before a group of military and Congressional spectators who were assembled on the Army proving grounds, Mr. Lester Barlow, the explosive expert, detonated a 1,000 pound liquid oxygen bomb in the midst of 84 goats who were tethered at various distances within a thousand foot radius.

Not one of the goats was injured. Barlow's assistant said, "I was the goat."

SEAN RUSSELL IN GERMANY?

NEW YORK, May 25 (UP).—Private advice received here to-day indicate that Sean Russell, Commander-in-Chief of the Irish Republican Army, may now be in Germany or Italy.

Russell has been on the run ever since his arrest in Detroit last June, two days before King George and Queen Mary arrived in Canada.

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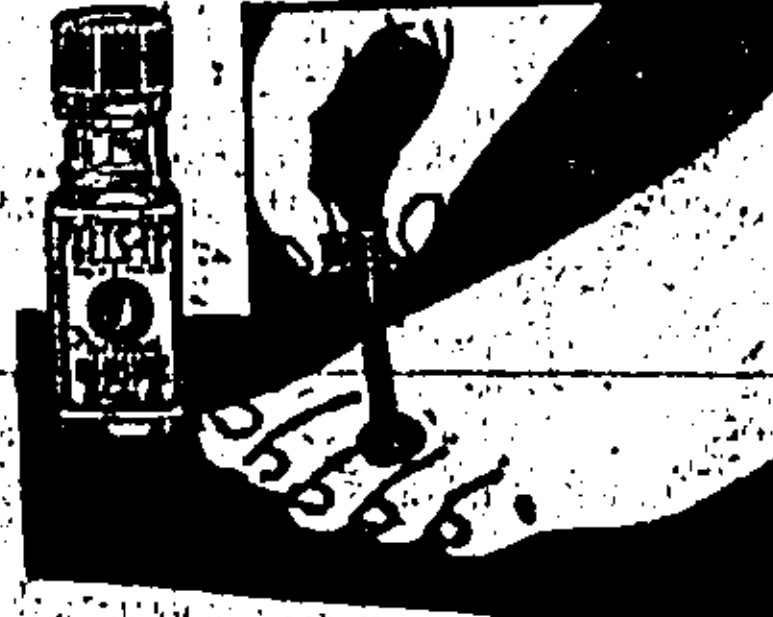
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